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INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT

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SUBJECT Precision Instrument Production at Arsenal No. 1,
Kiev

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1. Arsenal [redacted] Arsenal No. 1 in Kiev. In this production line (if it can be called such) for the instruments to be produced [see paragraph 8, following]. About three years were required to develop the manufacturing to the point where the equipment produced in Arsenal No. 1 even resembled that previously produced by Zeiss. Accuracy and exactness were not the rule and it is doubtful if the items produced [redacted] will adequately serve the purpose for which they were intended. 50X1-HUM
2. ✓ The manufacturing process was extremely crude and primitive. The labor, drawn from the surrounding countryside, was not especially trained for precision work and was only able to mimic or copy an operation. In hardly 50X1-HUM did the Soviet workers understand what they were doing or the reasons therefor. 50X1-HUM
3. The section [redacted] varied in personnel strength from 25 to 30 persons, male and female. In the entire Arsenal No. 1, [redacted] between 1,000 and 5,000 persons were employed. [redacted]
4. [redacted] monthly work quotas or plans were established which reached about the 10th of each month. Consequently, until the 10th of each month practically no work was accomplished. The workers read books or slept, as was their individual desire. As soon as the quantity of items we were required

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- 3 -

8. [] achieved a production of approximately 10 theodolites, Model TH-40; from 30 to 40 precision levels, Model A; and about 50 angle levels per month. Occasionally [] manufactured Russian levels of a very old type. [] the foregoing equipment, [] was for use primarily in the geodetic and meteorological survey fields [] 50X1-HUM
9. One of the leading Germans [] was named Doering. He held the title of Konstrukteur. He was actually the technical and scientific head [] and it was to him that new assignments were initially given in the event production other than normal was desired. A research laboratory, purely as such, did not exist, but a laboratory was available and its use was primarily the elimination of weak points in the product and the specification of the measures to be taken to eliminate these points. It goes without saying that whenever an inquiry as to the manufacturing capabilities [] came down from Moscow, regardless of the nature of the inquiry, only a positive indication that [] could make anything desired was ever forwarded from [] plant. Consequently, in many cases [] built a few specimens of equipment at great expense of time, effort and material just to prove that it could be done [] 50X1-HUM
- [] Doering attempted to develop an automatic collimation device for the instruments [] produced. A certain measure of success was achieved, but the approach was not practical from the field-use point of view. In addition to Doering, there were two other Germans - Fleiger and Keisling [] These men were primarily draftsmen, but could advance a certain amount of theory with respect to [] production. They were not, however, generally used in that capacity. 50X1-HUM
10. In addition to Arsenal No. 1 in Kiev there was another arsenal known as Arsenal No. 2. It was located in a church which was called "Laura" (phonetic).
11. [] from 1 to 2 trains (consisting of from 2 to 4 cars each) enter and leave Arsenal No. 1 each day. [] Comment: It hardly seems possible that a plant employing approximately 5,000 workers could be supplied by and could deliver goods produced by means of a total of 8 rail cars in and out each day. 50X1-HUM
12. [] the Arsenal obtained power from a 20 centimeter gas line which had been brought into Kiev. An outlet from this line was installed to [] the plant and [] the gas smelled somewhat like decaying cabbage and that it burned with a heat approximately twice that obtained from normal generated gas in Germany. [] 50X1-HUM
1. [] Comment. Laura is the Russian word for monastery.

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